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### ORIGINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS2015 NOV 10 AM 10: 05
FORT WORTH DIVISION

CLERK OF COURT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Petitioner,

٧.

Civil Action No. 2 - 25 CV 8.58 - Y

RICHARD PHILLIPS,

Respondent.

#### PETITION TO ENFORCE IRS SUMMONS

The United States of America, on behalf of the Internal Revenue Service, petitions this Court to require respondent Richard Phillips to comply with an IRS summons, as follows:

- 1. Jurisdiction for this proceeding exists under 26 U.S.C. § 7604(a).
- Venue is proper in this Court because Richard Phillips resides in Tarrant
   County, Texas. Richard Phillips's address is 5812 Dana Drive, Haltom City, Texas
   76117.
  - 3. The Internal Revenue Code authorizes the Secretary of Treasury,

[f]or the purpose of ascertaining the correctness of any return, making a return where none has been made, determining the liability of any person for any internal revenue tax..., or collecting any such liability...[t]o summon the person liable for tax... or any officer or employee of such person, or any person having possession, custody, or care of books of account containing entries relating to the business of the person liable for tax..., or any other person the Secretary may deem proper, to appear before the Secretary at a time and

place named in the summons and to produce such books, papers, records, or other data, and to give such testimony, under oath, as may be relevant or material to such inquiry

26 U.S.C. § 7602(a). This section "has long been characterized as an inquisitorial, rather than an accusatorial power, somewhat analogous to a grand jury investigation." *United States v. Wyatt*, 637 F.2d 293, 299 (5th Cir. 1981). The Fifth Circuit holds that it is to be "liberally construed" to permit the IRS to carry out its duties. *United States v. Schwartz*, 469 F.2d 977, 982 (5th Cir. 1972); *see also United States v. McKay*, 372 F.2d 174, 176 (5th Cir. 1967).

- 4. James Ashton, a revenue officer of the IRS and an authorized delegate of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Commissioner of the IRS, is investigating the collection of certain tax liabilities of a third party, Patrick Phillips. On April 9, 2015, Ashton issued an IRS summons (Form 2039) to Richard Philips pursuant to section 7602 of the Internal Revenue Code. The summons relates to the IRS's attempts to investigate and collect on certain tax liabilities of Patrick Phillips.
- 5. The summons required Richard Phillips to appear at the IRS office at 5450 Stratum Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76137, on May 21, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., to give testimony and to produce for examination the information, documents, and records pertaining to a limited liability company known as Corpsupport Services, LLC ("Corpsupport"), as described in the summons. Texas Secretary of State records indicate that Corpsupport's organizer and managing member is Richard Phillips. And other

A true and correct copy of the declaration of James Ashton is attached to this petition, and includes as Exhibit A to the declaration a copy of the summons.

evidence available to the IRS indicates that checks are written from a Corpsupport bank account for the benefit of Patrick Phillips, the taxpayer whose tax liability is being investigated. Therefore, a summons was issued to Richard Phillips to obtain information about Corpsupport and its payments to Patrick Phillips.

- 6. Ashton served the summons on Richard Phillips by leaving an attested copy at the last and usual place of abode for Richard Phillips at 5812 Dana Drive, Haltom City, Texas 76117, on April 10, 2015. This is a proper method of serving a summons, under 26 U.S.C. § 7603(a). See Declaration of James Ashton ¶ 4; Exhibit A.
- 7. Richard Phillips did not appear at the IRS office in response to the summons, nor has he subsequently provided the summonsed testimony and documents. See Declaration of James Ashton, ¶ 5.
- 8. The summons was issued to investigate the collection of Patrick Phillips's tax liability, which is a legitimate purpose for issuing a summons under the Internal Revenue Code. The materials sought in the summons are relevant to that purpose. The information requested is not in the possession of the IRS. In addition, the IRS has followed the administrative steps related to the IRS's investigatory activities and required by the Internal Revenue Code and there is no Justice Department referral in effect. *See* Declaration of James Ashton ¶¶ 2–3, 6–9.
- 9. As demonstrated in this petition and the accompanying declaration and exhibit, the IRS has established a prima facie case for enforcement of the summons under *United States v. Powell*, 379 U.S. 48 (1964). Pursuant to *Powell*, the IRS is entitled to enforce a summons when it shows:

that the investigation will be conducted pursuant to a legitimate purpose, that the inquiry may be relevant to the purpose, that the information sought is not already within the Commissioner's possession, and that the administrative steps required by the Code have been followed—in particular, that the "Secretary or his delegate," after investigation, has determined the further examination to be necessary and has notified the taxpayer in writing to that effect.

Powell, 379 U.S. at 57–58. Once the IRS has established the Powell requirements, the burden shifts to the respondent to either disprove one of the four elements or to demonstrate that judicial enforcement of the summons would constitute an abuse of process. United States v. Davis, 636 F.2d 1028, 1034 (5th Cir. 1981) (citing Powell, 379 U.S. at 58).

FOR ALL THESE REASONS, the United States of America respectfully requests that the Court:

- (a) issue an order directing Richard Phillips to appear before this Court to show cause, if any, why an order should not be issued directing and commanding Richard Phillips to appear before an officer of the IRS at such time and place as the Court may order, to give such testimony, and to produce such records, as were requested in the summons;
- (b) at the hearing described above, issue an order directing and commanding

  Richard Phillips to appear before an officer of the IRS at such time and place
  as the Court may order, to give such testimony, and to produce such records,
  as were requested in the summons;

- (c) provide in its show cause order that service of the show cause order, together with a copy of this petition and the accompanying declaration and exhibit, may be made on Richard Phillips by revenue officer James Ashton, or any other revenue officer or any proper officer of the IRS, in any manner consistent with Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; and
- (d) award the United States such other and further relief to which it may be entitled.

DATED: November <u>//</u>, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN R. PARKER United States Attorney

Brian W. Stoltz

Assistant United States Attorney

Texas Bar No. 24060668

1100 Commerce Street, Third Floor

Dallas, Texas 75242-1699

Telephone: 214-659-8626

Facsimile: 214-659-8807

brian.stoltz@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Petitioner

#### DECLARATION

James Ashton declares:

- 1. I am a duly commissioned revenue officer employed in the Small Business/Self-Employed Division, Gulf States Compliance Area of the Internal Revenue Service at Galleria Village, 1740 Briarcrest Dr., Bryan, TX 77802.
- 2. In my capacity as a revenue officer, I am conducting an investigation into the collection of the tax liabilities of Patrick Phillips for the calendar years ending December 31, 2000; December 31, 2001; December 31, 2002; December 31, 2003; December 31, 2004; December 31, 2005; December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007.
- 3. In furtherance of the above investigation and in accordance with Section 7602 of Title 26, U.S.C., I issued an administrative summons, Internal Revenue Service Form 2039, on April 9, 2015 to Richard Phillips, 5812 Dana Dr., Haltom City, TX 76117 to appear to give testimony and produce for examination books, papers, records, or other data as described in said summons. The summons is attached to this declaration as Exhibit A.
- 4. In accordance with Section 7603 of Title 26, U.S.C., an attested copy of the Internal Revenue Service summons described in Paragraph (3) was served on the respondent, Richard

Phillips, on April 10, 2015 by affixing the summons to the front door of the residence located at 5812 Dana Dr., Haltom City, TX 76117, as evidenced in the certificate of service on the reverse side of the summons, and after this address was first verified as being the principal residence of Richard Phillips by Sue Robertson, the mother-in-law of Richard Phillips who resides in an apartment located in the rear of the property.

- 5. On May 21, 2015, Richard Phillips did not appear as required by the summons and has not subsequently provided the summonsed records and testimony as of the date of this declaration.
- 6. The investigation for which the summons was issued is being conducted pursuant to a legitimate purpose, the inquiry being made is relevant to that purpose, and the books, papers, records, or other data sought by the summons are not already in the possession of the Internal Revenue Service.
- 7. All administrative steps required by the Internal Revenue Code for issuance of a summons have been taken in this case.
- 8. There is no "Justice Department referral" in effect with respect to respondent with regards to the summons for calendar years ending December 31, 2000; December 31, 2001; December 31, 2002; December 31, 2003; December 31, 2004; December 31, 2005; December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007.

9. It is necessary to obtain books, papers, records or other data sought by the summons in order to collect the federal tax liabilities of Patrick Phillips for calendar ending December 31, 2000; December 31, 2001; December 31, 2002; December 31, 2003; December 31, 2004; December 31, 2005; December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 22nd day of October , 2015

James Ashton Revenue Officer



## Summons

In the matter of Patrick	Phillips, 825 Northern Trace, Kel	ller, TX 76248	······································	
Internal Revenue Service	(Division): Small Business/Self	Employed	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Industry/Area (name or n	umber): Small Business/Self Em	ployed - Area		
Periods: <u>See attachmen</u>	t for Period information			
	The Commissio	ner of Internal Re	venue	
	as third-party keeper of records	·		
At: <b>5812 Dana Dr., H</b> a	altom City, TX 76117			-
produce for examination the foll	required to appear before James Ashton, a owing books, records, papers, and other da octed with the administration or enforcemen	ata relating to the tax liability	or the collection of the tax lia	blity or for the purpose of
statements and can for which you have Corpsupport Servic	ing January 1, 2014 to the ocelled checks from all according signature authority; docunes, LLC; reports filed with these accounts and all tax	ounts held in the in nents pertaining to any governmenta	name of Corpsupp o the creation and I agency; correspo	ort Services, LLC registration of ondence, electronic
NOTE-This summor Revenue Code.	ns is exempt from the notic	e requirements b	y section 7609 (c)(	2)(D) of the Interna
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***	. i.			
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	7 Au			GOVERNMENT EXHIBIT
				3
Business address and	d telephone number of IRS off	icer before whom y	ou are to appear:	
Internal Revenue Servi	ce, Galleria Village, 1740 Briarcrest	Dr., Bryan, TX 77802	979-268-1053	
Place and time for ap	pearance atInternal Revenue	e Service, 5450 Stratun	Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76	3137
DOT BEZ	on the 21st day of May	, <u>2015</u> at <u>10:00</u>	o'clock <u>A</u> m.	
Department of the Treasury	Issued under authority of the Intern	nal Revenue Code this _	9th day of April	, 2015
Internal Revenue Service	114	James Ashton	Revenue Officer	
www.irs.gov Form 2039(Rev. 12-2001)	signature of Issuing Officer	Valifes Adition	Title	
Catalog Number 21405J	Per Electronic Approval	Thomas Carson	Supervisory Reven	ue Officer
	Signature of Approving Officer (If app		Title	

Do not write in	this space
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#### Business address and telephone number of IRS officer before whom you are to appear:

Internal Revenue Service, Galleria Village, 1740 Briarcrest Dr., Bryan, TX 77802 979-268-1053

Place and time for appearance at \_\_\_Internal Revenue Service, 5450 Stratum Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76137

TRS
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
www.irs.gov

Form 2039(Rev. 12-2001) Catalog Number 21405J

on	the_	21st	day	of	May	 2015	at	10:00	0	'clock	Α	m
									< .			

Issued under authority of the Internal Revenue Code this 9th day of April , 2015

James Ashton Revenue Officer
Signature of Issuing Officer

Signature of Issuing Officer Title

Per Electronic Approval Thomas Carson
Signature of Approving Officer (if applicable)
Supervisory Revenue Officer
Title

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#### **Attachment to Summons Form 2039**

Period information: Annual periods ending December 31, 2000; December 31, 2001; December 31, 2002; December 31, 2003, December 31, 2004, December 31, 2005; December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007.



# Service of Summons, Notice and Recordkeeper Certificates

(Pursuant to section 7603, Internal Revenue Code)

I certify that I s	served the summons shown on the front of th	ils form on:						
Date	4 192015 Tir	ne 9.50A						
	1. U § 7603, to the person to whom it wa	summons, which contained the attestation required by s directed.						
How Summons Was Served	§ 7603, at the last and usual place of	mons, which contained the attestation required by of abode of the person to whom it was directed. I left (if any): \( \sum_{\text{to be accessed}} \) \( \su						
	was directed, that person being a the sent the summons to the following	ird-party recordkeeper within the meaning of § 7603(b). address:						
Signature	Title	Revenue Office						
IRC Section 7 to summonse of the person relates nor to determine the	7609. This certificate does not apply tran es served on any officer or employee to whose liability the summons summonses in aid of collection, to e identity of a person having a	ermine whether or not records of the business sactions or affairs of an identified person have n made or kept.  ertify that, within 3 days of serving the summons, I e notice (Part D of Form 2039) to the person ned below on the date and in the manner indicated.						
Date of giving	Notice:	Time:						
Name of Notic	cee:							
Address of No	oticee (if mailed):							
How Notice	I gave notice by certified or registered mail to the last known address of the noticee.	☐ I gave notice by handing it to the noticee. ☐ In the absence of a last known address of the noticee. I left the notice with the person						
Was [ Given	I left the notice at the last and usual place of abode of the noticee. I left	place of abode of the noticee. I left the copy with the following person (if  No notice is required.						
	any).	No notice is required.						
Signature	The state of the s	'						
Signature  I certify that th	any).	ding to quash this summons has expired and that sents to the examination.						

Do no	ot write	in this	space
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#### Business address and telephone number of IRS officer before whom you are to appear: Internal Revenue Service, Galleria Village, 1740 Briarcrest Dr., Bryan, TX 77802 979-268-1053 Place and time for appearance at \_\_internal Revenue Service, 5450 Stratum Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76137 on the 21st day of May \_\_\_, <u>2015</u> at <u>10:00</u> o'clock <u>A</u> m. Issued under authority of the Internal Revenue Code this 9th day of April Department of the Treasury internal Revenue Service James Ashton Revenue Officer www.irs.gov Signature of Issuing Officer Form 2039(Rev. 12-2001) Catalog Number 21405J Per Electronic Approval **Thomas Carson** Supervisory Revenue Officer

Signature of Approving Officer (if applicable)

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JS 44-TXND (Rev. 12/12)

#### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

parpose or minating the civil d	ocket sheet. (SEE IVSTRUC	TIONS ON NEXT PAGE C	r msro	RM.)									
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS United States of America	3			<b>DEFENDA</b> Richard Phillip						***************************************	·······		***************************************
(b) County of Residence o	of First Listed Plaintiff  XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF C	ASES)		County of Resi		(IN U.S	S. PLAIN	Defendant VTIFF CAS CASES, U LVED.	SES ONL	•	ON OF	······································	etertaria (nama
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Brian W. Stoltz, Ass't U.S Dallas, Texas 75248 (2	S. Attorney, 1100 Com			Attorneys (If K	(nown)	- I	5	CV	7	8. 5	8		Y
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)		TIZENSHIP (		RINCI	PAL	PARTI	ES (Pla	ace an "X"	' in One	Box fo	r Plaintiff
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